

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-7 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5666215 to Fredlund et al in view of US Patent 6483609 to Ueno et al.

Claim 1 of the present invention will be briefly reviewed. As stated in the preamble, the purpose of the claim is to select an image-bearing product that requires a particular resolution for the digital image. There is a user and a service provider. The user has a high-resolution digital image provided at the first location. The service provider displays information related to at least two different image bearing products that require different resolution digital images. The user selects one of the image bearing products. Since the service provider does not yet have the digital image, the digital image is converted at the first location to a lower resolution appropriate for the selected image bearing product. The lower resolution image is then sent to the service provider, where the selected image bearing product is produced.

An advantage of this arrangement is that communication of the digital image information is efficient, since only the image to be used to produce the image bearing product is sent from the user to the service provider. Moreover, only the appropriate resolution information required to produce the selected product is sent. For example, as described on page 14 of the present application, lines 19 - 30., if the user selects a 10" x 15" print, the 2,000 x 3,000 pixel image is uploaded to the service provider. If on the other hand, as described on page 11 lines 11 - 23, if the user orders a mug with an image, the 600 x 900 pixel image is uploaded to the service provider.

Fredlund et al store high resolution images at the service provider. The service provider produces low resolution display images which the user can use to select images and various image bearing products, such as prints and mugs. When a product is selected, the service provider uses the high resolution image, which was previously stored at the service provider, to produce the selected product. Since the high resolution image is already stored at the service provider, there is no need to communicate any type of digital image from the user to the service provider. Thus, there is no motivation whatsoever to convert high resolution images at the user's location. Moreover, there is no communication

from the service provider to the user's location of the required resolution for the selected image bearing product.

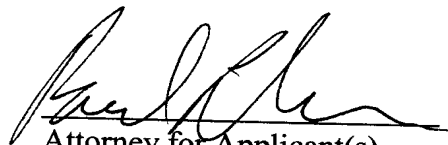
Ueno et al provide a system to efficiently transmit, for example by facsimile, compound documents that contain images, text, and line art. In the sections cited by the Examiner, and in Fig 3, it is clear that document is separated into different types of data, such as photo data and line art data. These two different types of data are converted to different resolutions and compressed using different types of compression. However, there is no teaching that the resolution used for these different types of data depends on a product selected by a user. Moreover, there is no communication from the service provider to the user's location of the required resolution for the selected image bearing product.

Applicants fail to see how Ueno et al can be reasonably combined with Fredlund et al to produce the subject matter of claim 1. Claim 1 is believed to define unobvious subject matter, and should be allowable. The remaining claims all depend upon claim 1 and should be allowed along with it.

If the Examiner requires clarification, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed none of the references, taken singly or in combination, disclose the claimed invention. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, the notice of which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.